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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm 1061
Rockville, MD
20852

June 30th, 1999

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding Docket #98N-1038, "Irradiation in the production, processing and handling of food." As a mother of two small children, I try to provide the best possible nutrition for my family. I expect to be able to make choices and have informed consent about my food purchases. I ask that you continue prominent labeling of irradiated food. Labels that are easily visible and understandable. I want the term "Irradiated" or "irradiation" to appear in the labeling and the radura symbol. I think that the terms proposed to replace irradiation ie. cold pasteurization are misleading and should not be used.

To remove the label altogether is also misleading. In my role as a mom, I try to provide a balance of vitamins and minerals from fresh fruits and vegetables. Irradiation destroys these qualities. I would then need to supplement our diets.

I urge you to keep the labeling of irradiated foods, and always be aware that you are providing information for consumers who have the right to make choices about their food.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours faithfully,


Helen Hendricks

98N 1038

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